



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

BRAZILIAN WOMAN THAT TRIED TO AVOID DEPORTATION BY MARRYING A USC 11 DAYS PRIOR TO HER DATE OF DEPARTURE ARRESTED BY ICE

MIAMI- A 31-year-old Brazilian woman that tried to avoid deportation by marrying a United States citizen 11 days prior to her scheduled date of departure was arrested here on Tuesday by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention and removal officers.

Nicole Frigini entered the country as a B-2 visitor for pleasure on Oct. 29, 2003. She was placed into removal proceedings on Jan. 7, 2005 for overstaying her visa in violation of Section 237 (a) (1) (B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA).

Frigini was found ineligible for any form of immigration relief and ordered removed on Jan. 13, 2005. An immigration judge granted her voluntary departure and gave her until Feb. 14, 2005 to depart from the country.

Frigini failed to depart as ordered to do so, and married a United States citizen on Feb. 3, 2005 in order to be able to remain in the country.

“We are committed to rooting out immigration violators who commit benefit fraud,” said Michael Rozos, field office director for detention and removal in Florida. “We will continue to restore integrity into our nation’s immigration system by deporting those who violate our laws.”

Frigini is in ICE custody at the Broward Transitional Center. Her removal from the country is imminent.

The Office of Detention and Removal (DRO) focuses on promoting public safety and national security by ensuring that all aliens who are subject to deportation are removed from the United States as expeditiously as possible.

Last year, ICE removed a record setting 160,000 aliens; approximately 53 percent were criminal aliens. ICE's Florida field office has removed 1,617 aliens since the beginning of Fiscal Year 05; 862 were criminal aliens.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.